

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1688

DEPT PLEASE PASS FOR INFO DEPT OF LABOR FOR DOLITAC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB URIRJC
SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOR
FERIDOUN NASSERI

REF TEHRAN 1639

1. IN ONE AND ONE-HALF HOUR CONVERSATION WITH DEPUTY
MINISTER OF LABOR NASSERI, EMBOFF DISCUSSED WIDE RANGE OF
SUBJECTS INCLUDING PLANNED REORGANIZATION OF MINISTRY OF
LABOR, PROS AND CONS OF MOBILE VERSUS FIXED VOCATIONAL
TRAINING CENTERS, AND EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING NEEDS OF IRAN.

2. NASSERI EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE FOR FINAL COPIES OF
GENERAL EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICA-
TIONS FOR MOBILE VOCATIONAL TRAINING UNITS WRITTEN BY DR.
EVERETT WARZECHA OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR INTERNATIONAL
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CORPS. NASSERI EMPHASIZED THAT, WHILE
HE HAD NOT YET HAD A CHANCE TO READ THE FINAL PRODUCT OF
DR. WARZECHA'S LABORS, HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE
MINISTER AND OTHERS CONCERNED WITH EDUCATIONAL AND
TRAINING NEEDS IN IRAN WOULD BE PLEASED WITH THE FINAL
PRODUCT. HE EXPLAINED FURTHER THAT IRAN HAD MADE SOME
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SERIOUS MISTAKES IN THE PAST IN PURCHASING MOBILE VOCA-
TIONAL TRAINING APPARATUS WITHOUT A CLEAR IDEA WHAT
THEY NEEDED AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT IN GENERAL AND
SPECIFICALLY THE MINISTRY OF LABOR HAD FOUND MOST OF THIS
EQUIPMENT UNSATISFACTORY. HE REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO FRENCH-
MADE EQUIPMENT.

3. NASSERI POINTED OUT THAT OF ALL THE EQUIPMENT PURCHASED BY THE GOI, THE AMERICAN EQUIPMENT HAD BEEN THE MOST SATISFACTORY. HE REMINDED EMBOFF THAT FINAL DECISIONS AS TO WHICH FIRMS WOULD BE ASKED TO BID FOR CONTRACTS TO BUILD MOBILE VOCATIONAL TRAINING UNITS FOLLOWING THE NEW SPECIFICATIONS WOULD BE DECIDED OUTSIDE THE MINISTRY OF LABOR. HE EMPHASIZED HOWEVER THAT HE EXPECTED THE VAST MAJORITY OF FIRMS INVITED TO BID TO BE AMERICAN AND WAS QUOTE QUITE SURE UNQUOTE THAT THE FIRM TO WHICH THE CONTRACT WOULD BE AWARDED WOULD BE AN AMERICAN FIRM. NASSERI DOES NOT EXPECT GOI TO PUBLISH TENDER NOTICE UNTIL THE MIDDLE OF THE NEW IRANIAN YEAR (JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 1977) AND CONTRACTS WILL PROBABLY NOT BE AWARDED UNTIL THE END OF THE PRESENT IRANIAN YEAR (JANUARY, FEBRUARY 1978).

4. IN DISCUSSING PLANS FOR REORGANIZING OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS NASSERI INDICATED THAT THE NEW MINISTER FOR LABOR, MANUCHEHR AZMOUN, ENVISAGED SWEEPING CHANGES IN THE CURRENT MINISTRY ORGANIZATION. MINISTER AZMOUN WOULD LIKE TO SEE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND SOCIAL WELFARE INSURANCE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOR (BOTH PROGRAMS ARE CURRENTLY ADMINISTERED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE). THE MINISTER IS PLANNING A NEW OFFICE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A DEPUTY MINISTER WHICH WOULD CONCERN ITSELF WITH EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, WELFARE INSURANCE, LABOR STATISTICS, AND MANPOWER PRODUCTIVITY. THE SEMI-AUTONOMOUS INDUSTRIAL TRAINING BOARD WILL MOST LIKELY BE MERGED WITH THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR VOCATIONAL

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TRAINING AND PROVIDE POLICY PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION FOR TRAINING AND EDUCATION IN ONE BUREAU. AT THE REQUEST OF THE SHAHBANOU (EMPRESS) THIS NEW BUREAU WILL INCLUDE AN OFFICE TO SUPERVISE VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR WOMEN IN PARTICULAR. NASSERI PLANS TO USE PRIMARILY MOBILE VOCATIONAL TRAINING APPARATUS FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR THE TRAINING OF WOMEN SINCE HE FEELS THAT THE AVERAGE RURAL IRANIAN WOMAN WOULD BE MORE RECEPTIVE TO TRAINING FACILITIES WHICH THE GOVERNMENT QUOTE BROUGHT TO HER DOOR UNQUOTE RATHER THAN REQUIRING HER ATTENDANCE AT A FIXED TRAINING CENTER.

5. NASSERI AND EMBOFF DISCUSSED AT LENGTH PLANS FOR DEPARTMENT OF LABOR SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAMS IN THE U.S. FOR GOI OFFICIALS CONCERNING MANPOWER, PRODUCTIVITY STUDIES, AND EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE. NASSERI, WHO CONTINUES TO BE EAGER FOR SUCH PROGRAMS, ADVISED EMBOFF THAT UNTIL REORGANIZATION OF MINISTRY WAS COMPLETE AND NEW IRANIAN FISCAL YEAR BEGINS HE WOULD NOT ASK THE MINISTER TO NOMINATE OFFICIALS TO ATTEND SUCH

PROGRAMS.

6. UPON RECEIPT OF FIVE MORE COPIES OF DR. WARZECHA'S
SPECIFICATIONS NASSERI WILL SEND TO EMBASSY LETTER
ACKNOWLEDGING SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF USIRJC MOBILE
VOCATIONAL TRAINING UNIT PROJECT.
MIKLOS

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